

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
020533.0238 (2002P00640US)

PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.
09/645,866

REMARKS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's notation of allowable subject matter. Claims 27-28, 31-33, 35-36 have been canceled, claims 29, 34, 37, 39 have been amended, and claims 1, 3-5, 7-18, 20-21 and 23-26 have been previously allowed. Thus claims 29-30, 34, 37-39 are pending in the application and present for examination.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Request for allowance of claims 29-30, 34, 37-39

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 29-30, 34, 37-39 contained patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 29, 34, 37, and 39 have been rewritten in such a manner. Claim 30 is dependent on claim 29 and claim 38 is dependent on claim 37.

In view of the amendments to claims 29, 34, 37, and 39, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 29, 34, 37, and 39 dependent claims 30, and 38 are in condition for allowance and request allowance for 29-30, 34, 37-39.

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Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejections and timely pass the application to allowance. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to char any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

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Respectfully submitted,

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